



******FORERUNNERS*

JOURNAL OF THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY FOR GREATER SOUTHERN AFRICA

Affiliated with the American Philatelic Society and the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa

Volume XXIII, Number 1, Whole No. 65

July - October 2009



Orange Free State cover to San Francisco, USA, from Philippolis in 1885
with purple dated canceller.

Highlights

New and Old Postal Stationery
Natal POA 38 Used at Biggarsberg
Insufficient Prepaid Due Marks
Wild West Coaches and Rhodesia
De Jagersdrift Postmark
OFS Colored Inks: Part 2
Huguenot Anniversary
New Orange Free State Book

Philately of the Orange Free State by R.W. Hisey & R.T. Bartshe

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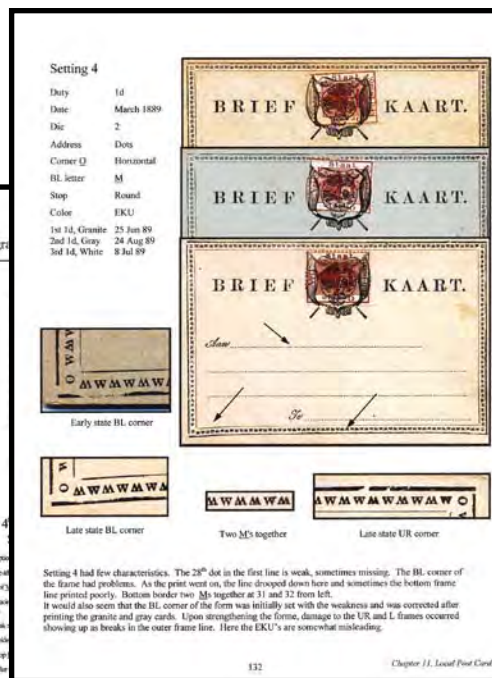
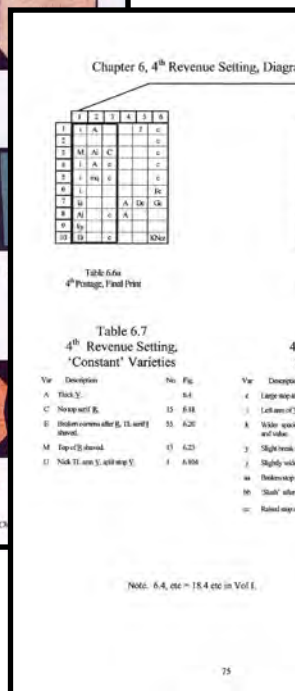
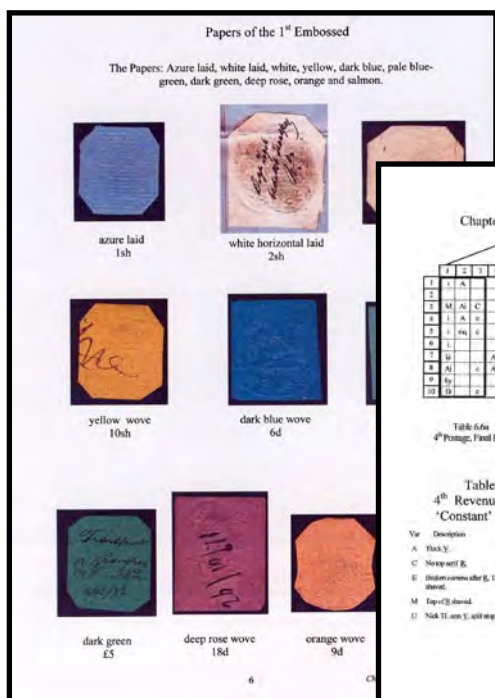
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Front Illustration:

Orange Free State cover to San Francisco, USA, mailed
from Philippolis in 1885 with purple dated canceller. Taxed
21/2d and San Francisco PAID ALL marking. See article in
this issue by Tim Bartshe on the colored cancellers of OFS.

***FORERUNNERS

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Silver at Stampshow 2007, Portland; Large Silver at WASHINGTON
2006; Vermeils in 2005 at STAMPSHOW and C7NPLE, Toronto; Silver at
CHICAGOPEX 2005; Silver-Bronze at LONDON 2000; Silvers at JOPEX 99,
STAMPSHOW 99, and COLOPEX 99; Silver-Bronze at PACIFIC 97; Vermeil/
Certificate of Merit at OKPEX 96; Large Silver at New Zealand National Philatelic
Exhibition 96; Silvers at SESCAL 95, CAPEX 96, WAPEX 93, and HAFNIA 94;
Silver-Bronze at ESPAMER 96, SINGAPORE 95, and PHILAKOREA 94.

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Editorial Notes

This is the start of volume XXIII (= 23) of Forerunners in case
you should be keeping track. It is also now 19 issues and over 6
years since I agreed to relief the previous Editor for a couple of
years. It have been some fun years thanks to the support of many

members - some regular but many occasional. Although I have no intentions of resigning as Editor for a couple of years to come, we should always be on the lookout for a willing replacement. Perhaps somebody out there have the right ideas, knowledge, and not the least the energy. I know how rare this kind of willing editorial species are and how unlikely it is that anybody would come forward and volunteer. But trust me - to be the Editor can occasional be fun - particularly like now when the finished copy finally is forwarded to the printer and I can look forward to a break for a few months. To be the Editor is also very rewarding. The Editor gets to know the membership better than any other society Officer. You not only get to edit the articles of the seasoned philatelic writers, you also as well will be helping the novice writer shaping their thoughts into a solid presentation. All are appreciative of your suggestions - even when you are wrong. Occasionally you will run into somebody that absolutely are not appreciative of your efforts. Those rare cases you soon will learn to ignore or reject. So please come forward. No need to be shy.

You will see from this issue that we have lost another advertiser. This time from the inside front cover. Not only does this mean that our Society is loosing important revenue, it also is causing some editorial problems. The four cover pages are not paginated and thus cannot contain articles that require indexing. The only material really suited are thus either Society or dealer ads. We thus is in need of your help. Try and approach your favorite dealer of southern African material. Propose that he or she places an ad in *Forerunners*. The ad rates are very reasonable - or as the Treasurer puts it 'dead cheap.' It is being printed in full color and can be changes from issue to issue. But most importantly, the journal goes out to the most active collectors and exhibitors of southern African material in the US and has in addition large membership bases in the UK and South Africa. He or she may argue, as a veteran member-dealer did to me when I raised the subject of placing an ad in *Forerunners*, that he had nearly completely discontinued advertising and that it apparently did not had any effects on his sales. The argument is obviously that he may very well be right. However, it may have an marked effect on the long term livelihood of a small specialist society like the PSGSA on which he immensely benefit and on which he depends on to spread the words and excitement about the hobby. Well - in my case it was not enough - as yet. Still try it.

This time we are able to present several articles written by some of our seasoned writers. Tim Bartshe continues his study of the colored inks of OFS and Uli Bantz expands his discussion of the SWA Huguenot issue. Jan Stolk continues our probably longest lived speciality column by discussing insufficient-prepaid markings on South African mail. We have further borrowed the

story about the role of American Wild West coaches in opening up Rhodesia. Jan Stolk finally stake a stab on starting a new speciality column devoted to postal stationery. Smaller contributions show and discusses Natal and Transvaal postmarks.

When you reads this issue, we will know the fate of *Forerunners* at Chicagopex. The latest volume, in part printed in color, has been entered into the Literature competition. We will report the results in the next issue.

The deadline for the next issue will be Feb. 15, 2010. Please let me have your contributions - small or large - as soon as possible.

Final Volume of the OFS Trilogy

You may already have discovered that this issue is devoted to the Orange Free State in celebration of the third and final volume of Bob Hisey and Tim Barthse's trilogy. The books have been published by Ossewa Press in cooperation with PSGSA. This has been a large publication project and we are proud to have been involved. Still the success owns it all to the hard work of Bob and Tim. The final book covers the revenues and postal stationery. See review on page 24 and a full page ad on the inside front cover. Congratulations to the authors for a job well done. Bob is ready for your order!

Society Affairs

The *Forerunners* is the official journal of the Philatelic Society for Greater Southern Africa. The journal is published three times per year for the periods July/October, November/February, and March/June. Subscription to the *Forerunners* is included in the membership fees to the Philatelic Society for Greater Southern Africa (PSGSA). Membership fees are US\$25 for USA and Canada mailing addresses and US\$30 for all other addresses. Those that join before July 1st will receive the complete back issues for that year. Thereafter annual renewals occur in August and are due by September 1st. A sample copy of *Forerunners* is available from the Editor for \$9. Presentation issue can be freely downloaded together with application form from psgsa.thestampweb.com. Advertising rates can be found in the Market Place section. Payment options are (1) check drawn on a US bank and made payable to PSGSA, (2) £ Sterling checks made payable to E. Hisey, (3) US \$ or £ Sterling bank notes at the current exchange rates and mailed at the sender's own risk, or (4) PayPal plus \$1 fee to the Society Treasurer at dmcnamee@aol.com. All membership fees and other payments should be mailed directly to the Treasurer. All communications about membership, subscriptions, publications, activities, and services of the Society should be sent to the Secretary.

Instructions for Manuscript Submissions

Manuscripts should be sent to the appropriate member of the Editorial Board or directly to one of the Editors. Electronic versions of submissions are preferred either embedded in an email message, email attachments or on a floppy disk or CD. MS Word files are preferred. Avoid complex tables, unless in text format. Illustrations should be scanned at least at 150 dpi and submitted in tif, gif, or jpg formats. Illustrations should not be embedded in manuscript files. Contact the Editors if you have any questions and your submission requires special attention. Needless to say, good old fashioned typed or hand written manuscripts and photocopies can still be submitted and are most welcome.

Back Issues Available

Back issues of the *Forerunners* are in stock and available for purchase. These are listed by whole number: #1-4, 6-9, 11-17, 22-27, 28/29,* and 30-63. The price per copy is #1-3, \$2; #4, \$4, #6-11, \$3; #12-13, \$4; #14-15, \$5; #16-17, \$6; #22-27, \$7; #28/29, \$10; #30-33, \$7; #34-65 \$9. Prices include shipping by lowest rate. Many back issues only exist in few remaining copies. Send orders to the Editor together with payment. * Combined as a British Africa Anthology with articles from 15 speciality groups celebrating PSGSA's 10th Anniversary during PACIFIC 97.



President's Corner

Greetings once again from Ontario, with the summer apparently at an end and Fall colors already showing up on the trees. This was a most unusual summer, with plenty of rain and the lawns never reaching their usual state of the "sere and yellow leaf" variety. In fact, the company we employ to do the garden is happily mowing every Thursday and the grass as long as it has ever been. The weather forecast last night hinted at the possibility of snow coming in from the Canadian west! This is much too soon for me.

The show in Dayton was a great success and Barbara and I thoroughly enjoyed it even though it was hard work putting up the exhibits and then taking them down on Sunday. Some exhibitors who ask return by mail have not much idea of the problems they create with poor wrapping on their exhibit when they send it in. However, all the mail-ins seemed to get back to their owners with no problem. It was a pleasure to meet David McNamee and Elizabeth Hisey at the show. David won the Reserve Grand with his exhibit on "The Canoe in Pacific Island Culture" and Elizabeth scooped the Best Display Division Award with "Christmas Dinner at the Portland Hotel 1914". Well done! Strangely enough, we had another exhibit titled "Polynesian Seafaring: Conquering Oceania by Canoe" and it sure is unusual to have two exhibits on that subject.

Speaking of exhibits, I have just sent a submission off to TEXPEX, where the PSGSA will be having our Convention, with numerous meetings on the weekend of April 16-18, 2010. I would urge as many members as possible to try and make it to Texas and join the festivities. Also, it would be great if we have lots of exhibits on southern African philately. There is a website [www.texasphilatelic.org/texpex.html] where you can obtain more information, or contact PSGSA Convention Coordinator Ron Strawser at strawser5@earthlink.com. Watch Forerunners for more information. I shall look forward to renewing contact with some members and hopefully meeting many new ones.

Barbara and I are looking forward to renewing our acquaintance with Texas, which we have visited on a number of occasions. Maybe we can take in some of the countryside which we have not visited before and possibly revisit the McDonald Observatory in the Davis Mountains, which we enjoyed some years back. Another visit to Waxahatchie, south of Dallas, may also be worthwhile.

The next American Topical Association Convention is being held in Denver in 2010 and yours truly is acting as exhibits chairman once again. David McNamee is on the jury, so there will no doubt be a bit of a reunion, as Tim Bartshe is sure to be there as well and Elizabeth Hisey has also intimated that she may have another exhibit for us!

Well, that seems to be all that I can think of at the moment and I have to get this column to the editor post haste!

Until next time.....



PSGSA Convention at TEXPEX 2010

**Destination
Dallas!**

TEXPEX

April 16-18, 2010

Doubletree Hotel Dallas Near the Galleria
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TEXPEX
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APS World Series
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- Auxiliary Markings Club
- Philatelic Society for
Greater Southern Africa
- Texas Philatelic
Association
- Texas Postal History
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Bring Collections for Appraisal

www.texasphilatelic.org/texpex.html

PSGSA will convene at TEXPEX in Dallas, Texas, during the 16th to 18th of April, 2010, for our annual convention. There will be Southern Africa displays and seminars and good fellowship. The deadline for submitting your exhibit entry form is March the 25th. However, if you want to secure the desired number of frames for your exhibit, it is recommended that you submit early. The exhibit fees are only \$8 per frame for multi-frame exhibits (2-10 frames) and \$20 for a single frame exhibit.

Contact Ron Strawser strawser5@earthlink.net and see the TEXPEX web site for a Prospectus and for more information: www.texasphilatelic.org/texpex.html.

Missing Dues

A substantial number of members have not yet renewed. Please send dues as soon as possible to PSGSA Treasurer David McNamee by mail to 15 Woodland Dr., Alamo, CA 94507 USA or by PayPal to dmcnamee@aol.com. Your name will be removed from the mailing list for next issue of Forerunners unless we hear from you.

PSGSA Membership Corner

Lost Member. We have lost contact with life member Daniel A. Brouillette - last known address 496 Linden Lane, Lino Lakes, MN 55041-5474. His mail is being returned with address unknown. Can any member help us find him?

Joburg 2010 26th Asian International Stamp Exhibition



The year 2010 will be a momentous year for South Africa. The country is hosting FIFA's 2010 Soccer World Cup and the perhaps not so soccer-mad philatelic fraternity commemorates the issue of the first Union of South Africa stamp, released on Nov. 4, 1910 (Scott No. 1; Fig. 1) on the occasion of the "Opening of the first Union Parliament, We recall: the Union of South Africa is the historic predecessor to the present-day Republic of South Africa. Next year it will be 100 years ago that the previously separate British colonies of the Cape, Natal, Transvaal and the Orange Free State were united into a central state on May 31, 1910. Who remembers this except for historians or philatelists? This is one of the reasons why the Management Committee of the Philatelic Federation of South Africa (PFSA) decided to stage an exhibition in 1910 to remember this centenary. South African philatelists, after having been excluded from international exhibitions for many years were allowed to join the philatelic fraternity from 1994 onwards. In 1998 the first South African International Exhibition ILSAPEX was staged and South Africa's first ever full international exhibition the 26th Asian International Stamp Exhibition (hereafter referred to as JOBURG 2010) will take place from 27 to 31 October 2010 at the Sandton International Conference & Exhibition Centre in Johannesburg. Why an 'Asian' exhibition in Africa? "JOBURG 2010" has the patronage of FIAP (Federation of International Asian Philately), the continental federation of which South Africa is an associated member as there are not enough philatelic umbrella bodies on this continent to warrant an "African Federation". The show is recognized by FIP and the main sponsors are the South African Post Office and the Philatelic Foundation of South Africa, a body jointly controlled by PFSA and the Post Office for the promotion of philately. As



Figure 1.

this is a FIAP exhibition not all FIP countries will be invited, except for those with historical connections such as the UK and the Netherlands. There will be 1500 competitive frames in the international 4x4 format to be judged by a jury composed of members from FIAP and other invited countries. The Keeper of the Royal Collection, Mr. Michael Sefi did confirm that Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II has graciously given approval for a selection of pages from her collection to be shown at JOBURG 2010. Archival material from the South African Post Office and several other outstanding displays will be on show in the Court of Honour. Over 50 dealer stands have been allocated to South African and overseas dealers plus a number of postal authorities will show their merchandise. The website www.joburg2010stampshow is still under construction but information can already be obtained by opening the website and clicking on: IREX FOR EXHIBITORS; ENTRY FORM FOR EXHIBITORS; ORGANISING COMMITTEE and USEFUL INFORMATION.

Compiled by Uli Bantz based on information from 'Green, H.: Leader Column – The South African Philatelist, Vol. 85 No. 4 (whole # 895), page 721, August 2009' and 'Philatelic Federation of South Africa: Various Minutes of Management Committee meetings.'

London 2010 Festival of Stamps

The preparations for London 2010 are fast advancing. The reservation of commercial booths and exhibit entry are long overdue. All you can do at this point is to make your traveling arrangements and accommodations. There will be some 2400 competitive frames available. The exhibits will be changed midway through the Exhibition. Philatelic Literature will be on display in a philatelic reading area throughout the duration of the Exhibition. The London 2010 International Stamp Exhibition is a full FIP World Exhibition. The US members of the Jury are Bob Odenweller, Stephen Schumann, and Peter McCann. As far as we can understand, the only PSGSA exhibitors from the US will be Tim Barthse (Republican postage issues from 1868 to 1900) and Bob Hisey (SA Officials). Other PSGSA members from South Africa and the United Kingdom will likely also enter southern African exhibits, but the official exhibit list has as yet not been released.



The PSGSA Philatelic Award

The award is a crystal paperweight cube 2 inches on a side with one corner flattened so that it sits up at an angle. The up-turned face of the cube is etched with the PSGSA logo and "Best Exhibit of Southern Africa" in 2 lines. This award is provided to any North American national level show that requests it, if they have three or more exhibits of Southern Africa philately. The winning exhibit must achieve at least a Vermeil. Requests can come through either President Alan Hanks alan.hanks@sympatico.ca or Treasurer David McNamee dmcnamee@aol.com.



Society Auction Manager

Since our previous auction manager retired after having managed our society auctions for many years, we have been unable to locate a replacement. A society auction is clearly one of the most important benefits of being a member of a specialist society like PSGSA. The lack of an auction may therefore hurt us in the long run. Traditionally society auctions are done using printed lists that are distributed to members as part of a newsletter or separately. Several specialist societies similar to ours are able to maintain auctions at regular or intermittent intervals. Most of these are done purely using printed auction lists. However, times have changed and emails and web pages have become common and should be considered. If anybody is in for the fun - there is a challenging society board position available. Contact any board member or the Editor if you feel the urge and excitement.

Scott to List Comando Brief Frank

Jim Kloetzel, Scott Catalogue Editor writes to Tim Barthse in response to Tim's open letter reproduced in FR#63 (p. 32): "Unfortunately, your e-mail with background, etc. of the OFS military stamp was put into the Transvaal folder instead of the Orange Free State folder. So, by the time we hit Volume 6, it was too late to do anything about an item in Volume 4."

"The good news is that we have done our own due diligence on this end, and we have decided to list this stamp. We will get it into this year's Classic Specialized catalog and then into next year's Volume 4."

Tim Bartshe responds and elaborate on the values of the franks: "I am very pleased to see that you found the material I sent regarding the Orange Free State Commando Brief Franks and have elected to list them in the next Classics and Vol. 4."

"In my opinion, based upon collecting this material for 30 years and having seen and own quite a bit of it, I would estimate that the unused examples are more uncommon than the used. These items were meant to be used by the commandos and were extensively used during the first four months of the war until the fall of Bloemfontein in March, 1900. They were used more sparingly in April and early May until the capture of Kroonstad, the new capital. As was the case in the early 20th Century, many were soaked off the covers and approximately 70 or fewer exist in private hands. I was involved in a very thorough census by the Orange Free State Study Circle based in London that concluded that there are only about 110 or so extant, over 1/3 in museums."

"My feeling as to a fair evaluation would be \$35 for used \$50 for mint and a starting price for the more commonly seen covers used from Modder River or Spytfontein should begin at \$750 with the more scarce originating cancels upwards to \$2000. These are not unrealistic figures based upon auction sales and private treaty sales. I have paid numbers approaching the upper limit as long as five years ago. They do not come up for auction very often, probably every couple of years or so. E-bay has single used stamps on occasion and they generally fetch the numbers shown above, again based upon the cancel clarity and town with certainly the more rare occupied towns of the Cape and anything from Natal bringing a larger multiple."

London 2010 Festival of Stamps

**London 2010
International Stamp Exhibition**
Business Design Centre, Islington
8 to 15 May 2010
including a major presence by Royal Mail

Empire Mail: George V and the GPO
Exhibition at Guildhall Art Gallery
7 May to 25 July 2010
*with material from The British Postal Museum & Archive
and the Royal Philatelic Collection*

**Special displays and talks presented by the
British Library Philatelic Collections**

Displays at the Royal Philatelic Society London
Open to all – 6 May 2010 by ticket
Members only – 7 May 2010

Themed displays at many venues
Throughout the year
*including Wimbledon Lawn Tennis Museum;
Bath Postal Museum; Bletchley Park;
Museum of World Rugby, Twickenham;
and Marylebone Cricket Club Museum at Lords*

One-day events
Organised by the member Federations of the ABPS



More details: www.london2010.org.uk

Appendage to the “250th Anniversary of the Huguenots Landing in South Africa”

by Hans Ulrich Bantz

Dealing with South West Africa’s “250th Anniversary of the Huguenot Landing in South Africa” 1939 stamp issue gave me the idea that an interesting thematic exhibit can be formed around this topic. I show here two covers to illustrate my point.

Firstly, a commercial registered cover sent locally from Huguenot to Paarl (Fig. 1). Why locally? Paarl is one of the largest country towns in the Western Cape. Houses and business premises are strung along the about 10 km or over six miles long ‘Main Street’ (R45 on Fig. 2). The Berg River flows through Paarl and separates it from its three industrial areas, Suider Paarl, Huguenot and Dal Josaphat. Huguenot was originally a separate township and is now linked by bridges across the Berg River to Paarl Centre. The township has its own railway station, also called Huguenot and was served by a post office from 1905 to 1914. After the end of World War One the post office was reopened in 1920 and is still operating. The cover shown in Fig. 1 has a POSTAGE PAID label, dated 87-04-29. The total postage to pay for this letter on this date was R0.81, made up by 16 cent standard letter rate plus 65 cent for registration. The letter was received, according to the backstamp, at the Paarl Main Street Post Office on the same day. These cash register labels were used instead of proper stamps by post offices either due to a) the lack of 65 cent stamps or b) the reluctance of smaller post offices to stock higher value stamps that could be stolen and sold at a discount in the street.

The second cover (Fig. 3) is a FDC issued on April 13, 1988, the 300th anniversary date of the arrival of the first larger group of 21 Huguenots in Saldanha Bay aboard the ‘Voorschoten’. The stamps (Scott 710-713) show the Huguenot Monument at Franschhoek, unveiled on April 17, 1948; a map of France depicting the administrative departments of France from where the South African Huguenot families originated; the title page of a New Testament in French and Dutch, printed in Amsterdam in 1672 and given to French refugees by Governor Simon van der Stel to help them settle in the Cape colony. The last stamp remembers the “Massacre of the St. Bartholomew’s Night” on August 24, 1572 when about 2000 Protestants were killed in Paris on instigation by Catherine of Medici (1519 – 1589) and permitted by her son King Charles IX (1550 – 1574). The Protestants had come to Paris for the marriage of their leader King Henry of Navarra, later the French King Henry IV, to Margaret, the sister of Charles IX. The killings went on throughout France for weeks and 1000s of Huguenots fled the country inter alia to North America. Cape Town was only founded in 1652, eighty years after those terrible events on St. Bartholomew’s night. Embossed on the left hand side of the FDC is the “Huguenot Cross”, the official insignia of South Africa’s “National Huguenot Society”, worn by members.



Fig. 1.

Selected Sources:

Internet: www.huguenot.netnation.com/general
(for an explanation of the history and heraldry of the Cross).

Philatelic Services Pretoria: Information on stiffener in FDC No. PT 4.25

Putzel, R. F. (1987): The Encyclopaedia of South African Post Offices and Postal Agencies. - Vol. 2.



Fig. 2.



Fig. 3.

How Wild West Coaches Opened-Up Rhodesia

Today it is a commonplace experience to cover the 322 km from Beitbridge to Bulawayo, between lunch and sundown. Indeed, such is the reliability and speed of the modern motor-car that beyond the danger of falling to sleep, the competent driver has few problems.

But of course it was not always so. Some years before the first internal combustion engine spluttered into existence, the route to the North was carved across the veld by the rumbling wheels of C. H. Zeederberg's American stage-coaches, in the best tradition of the Wild West.



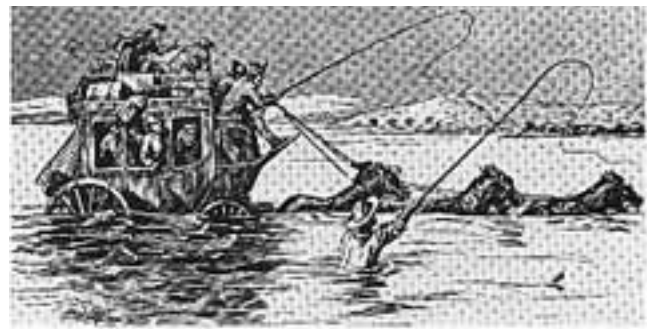
The first firm of "Zeederberg & Co., Coach Proprietors" was launched by four Zeederberg brothers in Pretoria, and was at first a purely South African concern. The first route was from Pretoria to the Northern Transvaal, in 1890. It was the occupation of Mashonaland, his subsequent friendship with Cecil Rhodes, and the tremendous demand for transport north of the Limpopo, which gave Christian Hendrik (Doel) Zeederberg reason to set up in Rhodesia.

The rainy season of 1890 was extremely heavy. The pioneers were scattered in search of gold and were unprepared for self-sufficiency. For some months any northward movement beyond Fort Tuli was practically impossible. Wagons were stuck hopelessly in the black vleis or on the banks of the flooded rivers, where, in the absence of adequate shelter, food and medicines, many hopeful young adventurers died of exposure and malaria.

For a few weeks after the occupation of Mashonaland, letters were carried by mounted despatch riders, but this became

impossible due to swollen rivers, and Mashonaland was cut off from the outer world from the end of December, 1890, to the middle of February, 1891.

Among the improvements made when transport began moving again was a contract awarded to Zeederberg & Co. for the maintenance of communication between Tuli and Salisbury (547 km). This contract cost the British South Africa Co. £4500 per annum. However, the Postmaster-General of the Cape Colony, who organised the scheme, was at pains to point out that the service dealt not only with postal traffic, "but was also the main line of communication for all purposes, the wagons being used for the conveyance of passengers and other articles besides mail matter".



In order to incorporate Mashonaland business into their existing schedule, Zeederberg extended the coach service Pretoria / Pietersburg as far as Tuli in April, 1891, via a pontoon built by C. H. Zeederberg over the Limpopo, and thence via Fort Victoria and Fort Charter to Salisbury. According to the yearbook "Guide to Southern Africa" for 1893, the fare Tuli to Salisbury was £15 and the journey took 14 days.

When Bulawayo came into the picture in 1894, the scene changed rapidly. Traveling on trains from Cape Town, Port Elizabeth and East London, the traveler arrived at Mafeking (the end of the railway line) in time to take his place on the 9 a.m. Monday coach to Bulawayo. The week-long journey was scheduled thus: Boulderpits-Monday midnight Gaborone-Tuesday 5 a.m. Palapye-Friday noon (1 hr halt) Tati hotel-Sunday 6 a.m. (1 hr halt) Mangwe Pass- Sunday midnight Bulawayo-Monday

9 p.m. What a service! The following description appeared in 1894:

“In fine weather, when the roads are in good condition, a coach journey may be very enjoyable, but in bad weather capsize is unpleasantly frequent and occasionally a coach with its freight and passengers will stick in the mud for many hours. Teams are changed every ten or fifteen miles, and some idea may be inferred of the number of horses and mules kept at the different stations from the fact that frequently four or five coaches will require fresh teams at one place during the day. The rate of traveling, including stoppages, is not much more than six mph. Fares are high, ranging from 9d. to 1/- per mile. The allowance of luggage per passenger ranges from 25 to 40 lb., and every additional pound weight is charged 6d. to 1/6d. extra according to the distance traveled, whilst, if the mail should happen to be heavy, luggage is frequently shut out”.

A direct route from the hotel at Fort Tuli to Bulawayo was made in 1894, reducing the distance Pretoria Bulawayo by 852 km. The northern half of the old road beyond Gwanda, still exists, but fell into decline following the development of mining communities at Essexvale and Filabusi.

Swaying, jolting and straining over the network of primitive tracks which linked Rhodesia's early settlements, Zeederberg's coaches labored and plunged like ships at sea. A broken wheel, mute symbol of this era, was recently retrieved from the bush by the police at Tuli. Nearly all of those “super-seasoned” spokes were still in place.

In 1896 most trek oxen had fallen victim to the severe rinderpest epidemic that swept across Southern Africa. During the Matabele Rebellion, which began in March of that year, Zeederberg coaches were the sole means of transportation between Bulawayo and the outlying settlements, and even went as far as Pietersburg, via Gwanda, for supplies.

One coach, with nine passengers, was attacked in a running fight between Shangani and Bulawayo. The mules were eventually run to a standstill and were killed. The driver and passengers ran to the top of a nearby kopje and prepared to defend themselves. With night coming on their situation was bad, but they were saved by the timely arrival of a patrol under Co!. Napier on its way to Gwelo. The coach, however, had been burned to ashes.

Zeederberg's continued to expand in spite of the arrival of the railway at Bulawayo in 1897. In fact, the northward advance of the railway was made possible by the animal transport industry, which thus initiated its own decline.

During the Boer War, Zeederberg & Co's. mail transport contracts were suspended and its resources put at the disposal of the British Government. A specially formed regiment with all its equipment was transported from the railhead at Marandellas to Bulawayo in 20 days, en route to assist at the relief of Mafeking.

Following the death of Doel Zeederberg in 1907, the company was acquired by speculative interests to whom tradition meant little. This, and the rapid rise of cheaper rail traffic, caused its downfall in the 1920. Nevertheless, the writer was delighted to discover that “Zeederberg's Garage”, of Essex-

vale, is owned and run by none other than Mr. A. Zeederberg, the son of Doel.

The strange adventures of Zeederberg's coaches continued after the dissolution of the firm. In 1924 a coach had been sent to England for display at the British Empire Exhibition at Wembley. After the event was over, the coach was forgotten, but was rediscovered by a curious visitor from Cape Town, in a dock-side warehouse in Hull, shortly before World War II.

This coach is now permanently exhibited in the museum on the second floor of the City of Johannesburg's Public Library.



From RHODESIA CALLS - May-June, 1973 issue. Copied from MEMORIES OF RHODESIA (<http://www.memoriesofrhodesia.com/index.html>).



New Postal Stationery and Old Discoveries

by Jan Stolk



Figure 1.

This is the first of what is hoped will turn into a regular column devoted to the postal stationery of southern Africa. The subjects will cover both new and old stationery. Jan Stolk has graciously agreed to become the principal editor and starts with a summary of new issues of South Africa, but also show some older South West Africa postcards. The next column will discuss Botswana stationery. Do not hesitate to contact Jan Stolk or the Editor if you can contribute to this regular column.

New postal stationery have been issued by the South African Postal Service over the past years always without prior notices. No information on the new issues has been given in their magazine *Setempe*. Likewise, the *South Africa Philatelist* gives little or no information on these new issues or reprints.

Therefore, I would propose a Postal Stationery Column in *Forerunners* in which members can publish their discoveries on either new or old issues.

This time, I will give information on:

1. Reprints on the set of 5 flower postcards
2. New airmail post card
3. New air letter
4. Printing errors on South West Africa postcard P98 (Stolk & Quik number)

In December 2003, a new set of 5 postcards for inland use were announced (Figure 1). The stamp on the card (standard postage) shows the same flower as the illustration on the left side of the cards. Illustrations are:

1. Black eyed Suzy
2. Tree Pelargonium
3. Karoo Violet
4. Blue Marguerite
5. Botterblom

When the set was first issued in 2004, *Setempe* announced (July-September) that the bar code was on the right of the postal code (see first card of Figure 1). This position of the bar code seemed to have been giving problems with the automatic sorting machines that interpret the postal code area. This first issue was therefore immediately replaced with cards with the bar code placed left of the postal code boxes (see last two cards of Figure 1). The first issue with the barcode to the right of the postal code boxes is difficult to find.

In the following years reprints of the postcard set were repeatedly issued, each reprint showing the issue date below the flower in the left bottom corner (Figure 2). Until now, I have only been able to find sets with the following dates: 2005-07-09, 2005-11-25, 2006-02-28, 2006-05-19, 2007-08-20, 2008-02-15. If any reader has found other reprint dates, please forward this information to me.



Figure 2.

A new airmail postcard was issued in 2008 and designed by Ellena Schmitz. The stamp depicts the same insects as on the illustration on the reverse: Heelwalker (Mantopasmatodes). The address side is rather strange with too many lines for a normal address, a too large stamp size, and no space for a message (Figures 3 and 4).

A new air letter has likewise appeared in 2008 with a bird of prey in the stamp (Figure 6). In three different positions on the air letter itself appears a date of issue 2008.00.00 (Figure 5). A reprint date of 2009.02.25 has been seen.

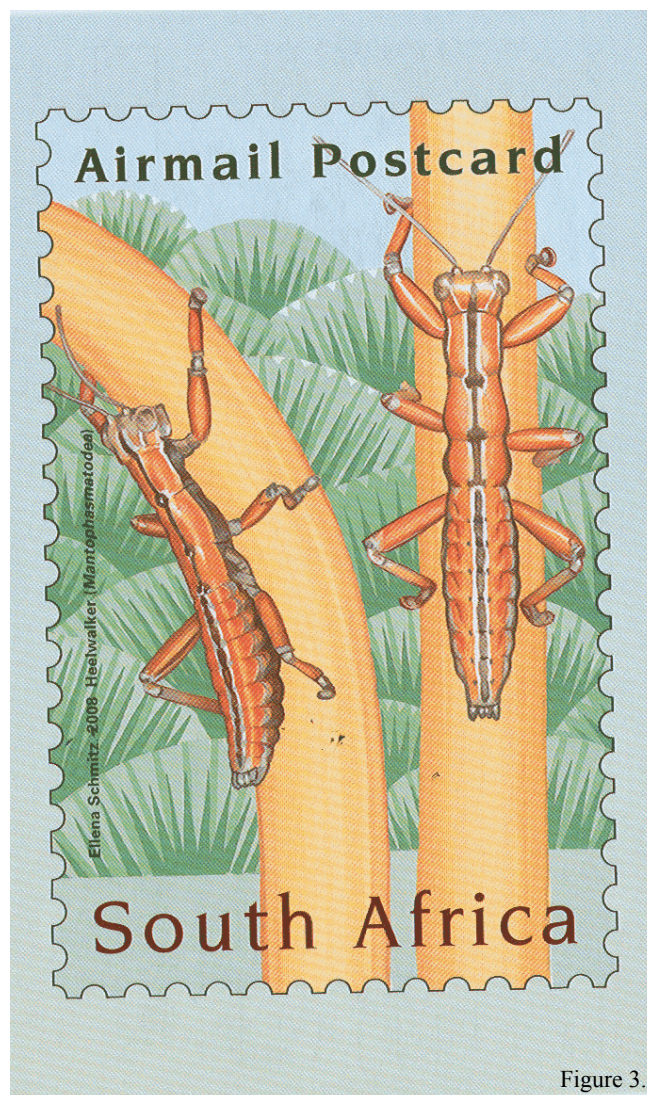


Figure 3.



Figure 5.



Figure 4.



Figure 6.

Finally, I recently discovered two copies of South West African post-card P98 with the black colour in the stamp shifted outside the main stamp design. One with only part of the value (P98d) and the other with the complete value (P98e) outside the stamp design. This causes the stamp image to become shorter in height as well.

These two postcards have 2 cent stamps added for the later postcard rate of 5 cent. This was always done with the old stock by the SWA post office when a rate increase occurred.

I hope that the readers will take up this challenge to supply new information on southern African postal stationery. What is the situation for postal stationery in Botswana, Swaziland, Lesotho, Zambia, Zimbabwe, and Malawi. Is postal stationery being discontinued in these southern African countries?



Figure 7.

Natal P.O.A. 38 Used at Biggarsberg in 1889

by Stephen Schumann

The illustrated ½d postal card was used from Biggarsberg Junction in Natal on 10 October 1889, using the P.O.A. (Post Office Agency) 38 cancel. This P.O.A. cancel was not attributed to Biggarsberg when the studies by Hart et al. (1977) and Kantey (1982) were published.

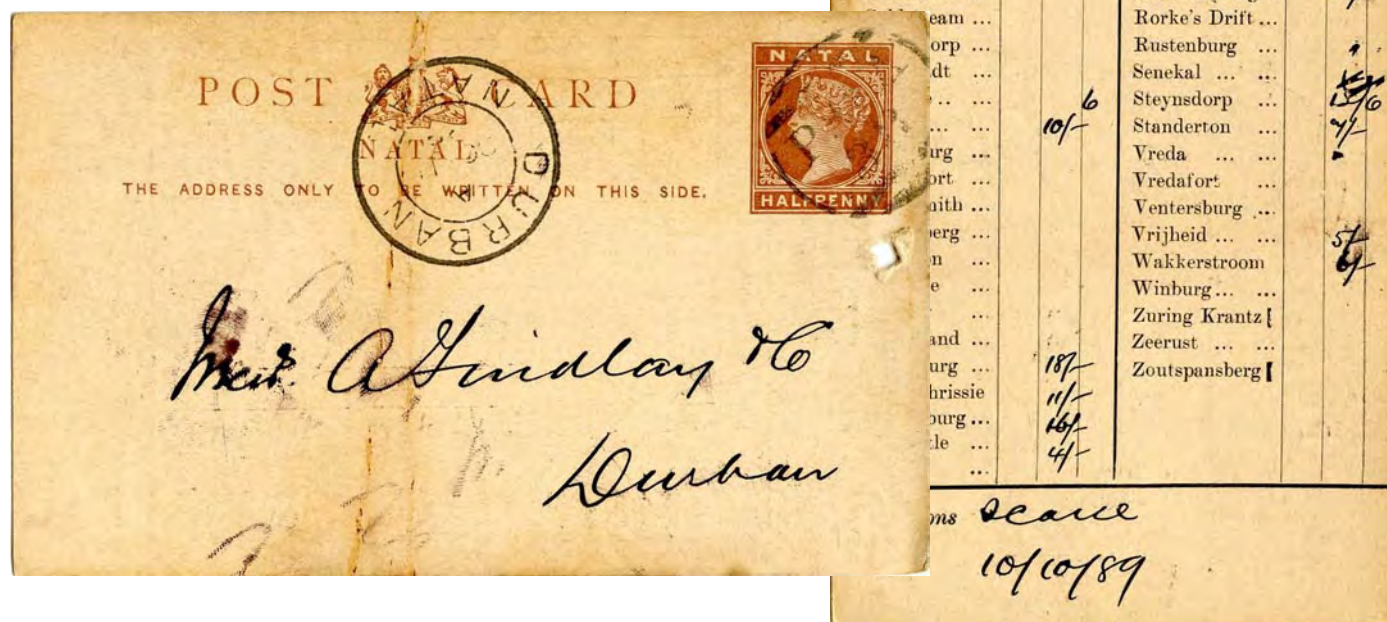
All sources in contrast suggest that P.O.A. 38 was used at Elizabeth (H.O. Dundee), while P.O.A. 92 was used at Biggarsberg (H.O. Washbank). Kantey (1982) reports P.O.A. 38 to have been used at Elizabeth between 1895-1901 and that Biggarsberg used P.O.A. 92 probably between 1901-1904. Putzel (1986) reports that Biggarsberg was opened in 1882, became a postal agency in 1884, a post office in 1892, and was finally closed in 1956. This is consistent with the observation of Putzel and Visser (1992) that Biggarsberg was issued its first CDC in 1893, replacing the existing P.O.A. canceller. Elizabeth was first opened in 1895, probably closed in 1901, and was throughout its short lifespan a postal agency.

This new find thus clearly proves that P.O.A. 38 was used at Biggarsberg prior to having been transferred to Elizabeth around 1893, when Biggarsberg was upgraded to Post Office status and thus no longer needed the P.O.A. canceller. The only problem remaining is why P.O.A. 92 could have been used at

Biggarsberg after this office was upgraded to Post Office and thus no longer needed an agency canceller.

References

- Hart, W.R., Kantey, B.A., and Leon, A.L., 1977. The Postal Markings of Natal. Published for the authors by Creda Press, South Africa.
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 Putzel, R.F., 1986. The Encyclopaedia of South African Post Offices and Postal Agencies. Volume 1. Hale and Putzel, Cape Town, South Africa.
 Putzel, R.F. and Visser, A., 1992. The Postmarks of South Africa and Former States and Colonies. Volume 1 (A-B). Published by Putzel, Tokai, South Africa (later updates on <http://www.up.ac.za/academic/civil/books/>).



Insufficient Prepaid Postage Due Markings

by Jan Stolk

This instalment describes the postage due markings for letters with insufficient postage. Sometimes such letters received a marking stating: *insufficiently prepaid, onvoldoende gefrankeer*.

These markings were mostly applied together with T-markings with centimes for international mail or with Sterling currency for inland mail. WB 12 combines both currencies for inland mail.

Some markings look very similar. Examples are WB7 and WB8, but when looked at closer we can see that the U and the P are in a different relative positions.

Some examples are of a poor quality. Should readers have cleaner copies, I would appreciate if they would mail me a copy of the marking for future publication.

It also should be noted that the 'used at' in the tabulation is taken from the cancellation on the cover. The markings could also have been applied at the postal district's head office or with international mail from the post office of arrival or departure. Thus the dates may be uncertain.

Cover WB1 is unusual as it received an insufficiently prepaid marking as incoming mail from the UK. The 1½d postage due was paid for with 1d roulette and ½d normal perforated postage due stamps.

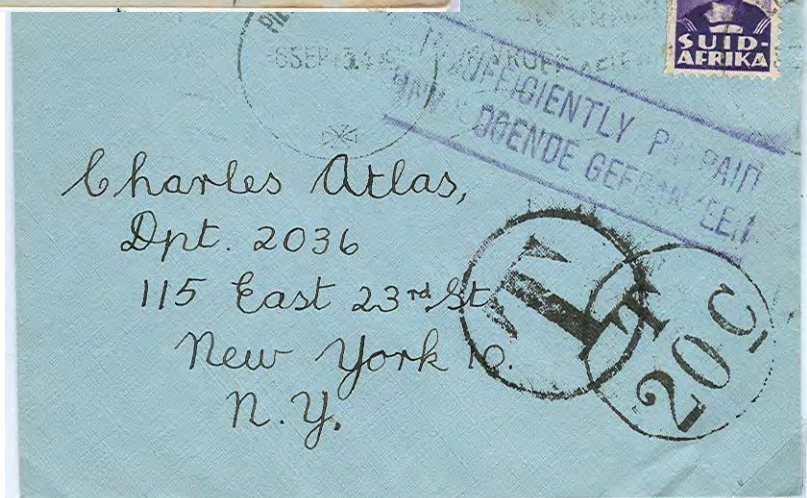
Cover WB6 also has centimes marking D5b and T-marking TB4b applied, making this a beautiful postage due cover.

Cover WB12 is another unusual usage of the late marking on incoming mail from Australia.


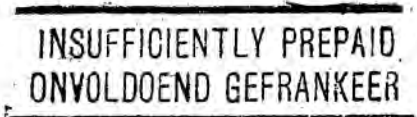

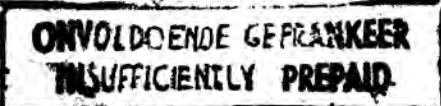

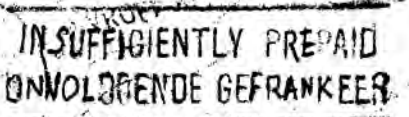
Once again I would like to thank Werner K. Seeba, Bob Hisey, Peter Thy, and Johan Diesveld for their support by supplying information and postage due covers.



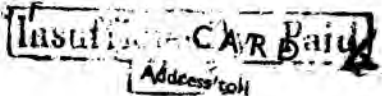





WB 1.

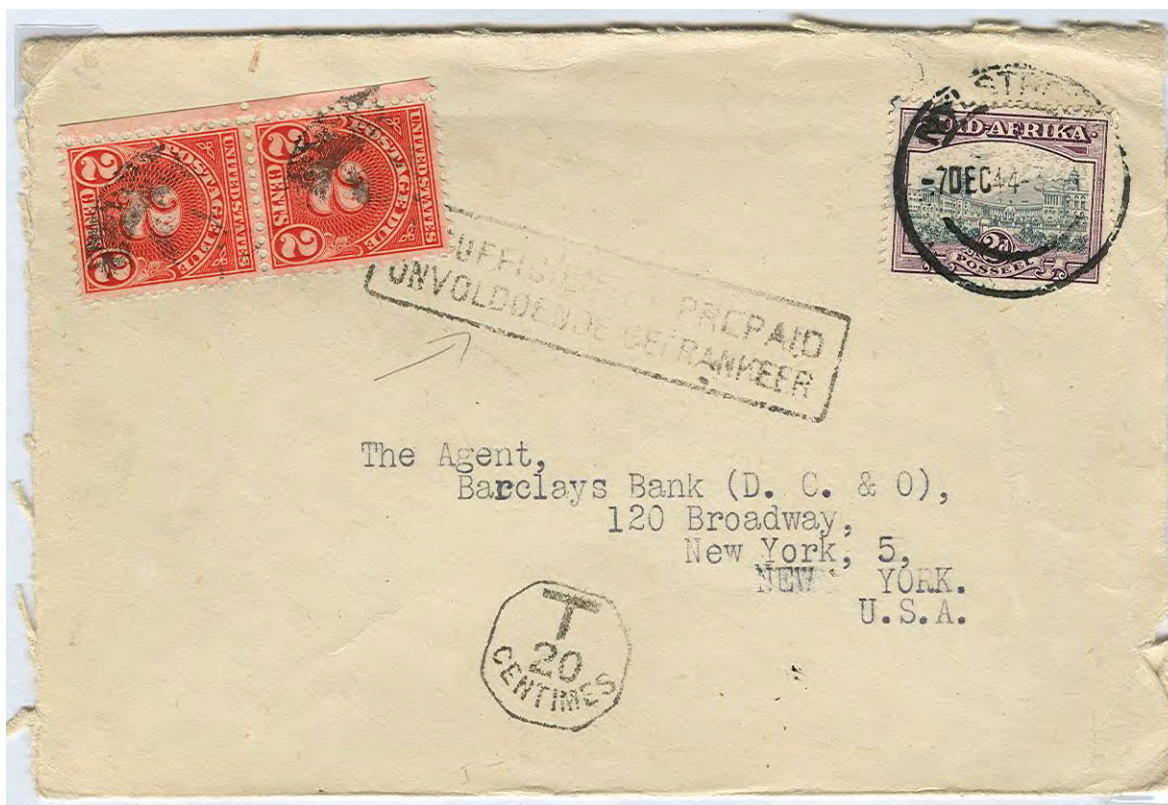


WB 6.

	P.D.MARKING	USED AT	EARLIEST DATE	LATEST DATE
WB1		East London size 71 x 11 mm	19-06-1923	
WB2		Bloemfontein Port Elizabeth size 55 x 16 mm	21-01-1937	23-03-1937
WB3		Nylstroom size 64 x 15 mm	07-12-1944	
WB4		Pretoria size 60 x 14 mm	16-05-1957	
WB5		East London size 54 x 16 mm	09-10-1947	
WB6		Pietermaritzburg size 52 x 15 mm	06-09-1943	

P.D.MARKING	USED AT	EARLIEST DATE	LATEST DATE
 WB7	Johannesburg size 52 x 15 mm	30-09-1930	
 WB8	Pretoria size 52 x 15 mm	08-09-1953	23-04-1990
 WB9	Pinetown size 49 x 11 mm	09-12-1936	
 WB10	Carolina size 40 x 8 mm	30-11-1953	
 WB11	Vereeniging size 77 x 22 mm	12-06-1982	17-05-1984
 WB12	Port Elizabeth size 64 x 12 mm	16-03-1979	24-04-1982

P.D.MARKING	USED AT	EARLIEST DATE	LATEST DATE
INSUFFICIENTLY PREPAID ONVOLDOENDE GEFRANKEER WB13	Port Elizabeth size 48 x 8 mm	01-10-1979	05-04-1982
INSUFFICIENTLY PREPAID ONVOLDOENDE GEFRANKEER WB14	Pretoria size 41 x 5 mm	03-06-1953	
INSUFFICIENTLY PREPAID ONVOLDOENDE GEFRANKEER WB15	ex-Allen size 59 x 6 mm		



WB 3.



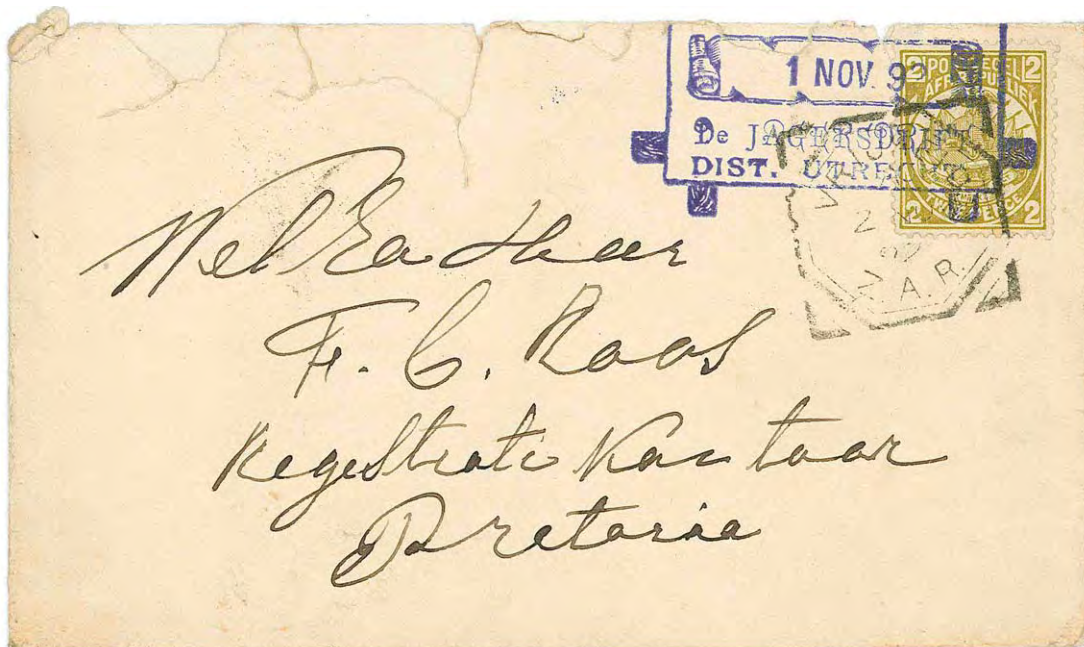
WB 12.

De Jagersdrift (Transvaal) Postmark

by Hennie Taljaard

The cover shown here was mailed in 1892 from De Jagersdrift to Pretoria and addressed to a F.C. Roos, Registratie Kantoor (translation: Registration Office), Pretoria. The cover is franked with a 2d stamp tied with an ornamental date stamp of 1 NOV 92 at De JAGERSDRIFT. DIST. UTRECHT. Also with a squared circle on 2 NOV 92 at Vrijheid Z.A.R. On the reverse is a PRETORIA*Z.A.R.* circular receiving mark of 6.NOV.92.

This De JAGERSDRIFT date stamp was not recorded by the late Ralph Putzel. Correspondence also took place with Putzel during the mid 1990s and he was not familiar with it. Putzel reports that the 1st post office at De Jagersdrift opened on 11 Sept 1892 (but first listed July 1892). Therefore, this cover represents a very early use of a datestamp at De Jagersdrift.



The Colored Inks of the Orange Free State

Part 2: Colored Cancels of the Other Towns

by Tim Bartshe

From the previous installment on this subject (FR #60), you might remember that within the main Post Office at Bloemfontein, there was a succession of colored inks used to cancel outgoing mail as well as date incoming mail. To refresh your memory, below is the table from the last article with the estimates of dates used in a very rough form slightly altered to indicate that this office never used colored ink again.

COLOR	EKU	LKU	EST DATES OF USE
Black	80/04/09	84/03/06	1880-Mar 1884
blue	84/05/01	84/05/01	Apr-May 1884
violet/pur	84/06/24	87/03/18	Jun 1884-Apr 1887
red	87/05/08	88/12/08	May 1887-Dec 1888
black	89/01/2		Jan 1889-Occupation



Figure 1. Selection of colored numerical cancellers. 2, red and blue-black; 4, red-brown; 8, blue; and 18, violet.

While this is a somewhat simplistic estimate of what was going on in Bloemfontein, what I would like to incorporate now is a discussion of the kinds of inks in use within the Free State itself during this period. While the data base is not nearly as complete as what we had for Bloemfontein, I have recorded some 130 plus examples (see Figure 1). I have not yet included all of the material that I may be able to glean from auction catalogs or other sources. I would like to concentrate on the numeral and letter killers with colored inks and see if we can add any more insight to the period that colored inks were used throughout the Free State.

During this time period, the 1880's, there was an expansion of not only the post offices but the use of "experimental" cancellers of a variable type and size which was not duplicated until the Colonial era and the advent of the small SO and SPO post offices. As of 1880, there were only 26 post offices with known canceling devices, all of which included the double circle/O.V.

STAAT, borderless double circle date stamps and the 16-bar numerals (19 different examples). Beginning in 1880 and in the ensuing 5 or so years the numbers of offices more than doubled to at least 57. It is during this expansion that the 11-bar numeral and letters were distributed to new offices. The original 16-bar one of Bloemfontein was replaced early on with the 11-bar one becoming the mainstay of the first part of this study encompassing usages over a period of some 12 years.

The small set of covers and cards in hand can give us some view as to what was going on in the countryside in relation to the Capital. As Bloemfontein ceased to use colored inks by January 1889, it would be reasonable to assume that the smaller towns and villages might follow a similar trend though somewhat delayed as their ink supply may not have run out as fast as the large office might. With that assumption, the following tables show the colored cancels through 1890, a two year lag. The first part is of the numeral/letter 11-bar killers and the second part of the table is of date cancels. I will discuss this further on as we will see some "rogue" towns using colored inks well into the mid 90's.

COLORED NUMERAL/LETTER CANCELLERS

While not a perfect match, the two tables do show a general progression through time of blue to purple to red or brown which may just be a degradation of red ink. A few notes in comparing the original table from the first part of this article series is that there is an earlier date of use for purple in Bloemfontein by a month; May instead of June 1884. One will also note that blue does make its appearance earlier than recorded in Ladybrand and as will be noted here most likely much earlier in Winburg, Smithfield and Zand River discussed below.

It is not just dated covers that can be useful in the identification of usages for these colored inks but lose stamps as well. These are much more common than examples on cards or covers. Covers from the 80's are notoriously uncommon and if it were not for the ubiquitous 1d de la Rue postal card the data base would be small indeed. Of the more than 2400 individual 16-bar canceled stamps jointly held by Bob Allison's and myself, only 360 or 15% are with colored inks; the distribution being fairly equal between blue, red and purple. Magenta and brown colors are the least common with the former only recording a mere 8 stamps. Using stamps with only killer cancels on them of course cannot be dated precisely but fortunately the Free State issued a number of provisional issues which can be dated to the time frame of interest. Usages of the 2d on 3d provisional of 1888 as well as the new value issues of ½d, 4d, 3d and 2d are also from the early to late 80's. Furthermore the 11-bay series of cancels were distributed sometime in 1880. We can at least establish a trend of ink color during this decade to some certainty and that

COLORED NUMERAL/LETTER CANCELLERS

Pre-1891, by date of usage

NUMBER	COLOR	SOURCE	DATE	TOWN	BATTEN#	COLOR
19	purple	card	85/09/24	REDDERSBURG	578	purple
15	purple	card	86/06/19	BETHANIE	none	purple
A	violet	cover	87/02/19	CLOCOLAN	228	violet
A	purple	cover	87/02/26	CLOCOLAN	228	purple
17	purple	card	87/05/07	LADYBRAND	491	purple
A	purple	cover	87/06/04	CLOCOLAN	228	purple
15	magenta	cover	87/07/?	BETHANIE	12	purple
24	red	card	87/08/20	HEILBRON	368	red
4	brown	card	87/11/09	FAURESMITH	289	brown
2	red	card	88/03/09	WINBURG	none	
V	purple	card	88/03/29	KLEINVISCHGAT	447B	purple
26	purple	card	88/04/21	BULTFONTEIN	214	purple
4	brown	card	89/01/18	FAURESMITH	289	brown
2	purple	card	89/02/23	WINBURG	none	
O	purple	card	89/09/28	JAGERSFONTEIN	412	purple
4	red	cover	90/02/02	FAURESMITH	289	red
4	red	card	90/02/15	FAURESMITH	none	
4	red	card	90/06/21	FAURESMITH	none	
Q	purple	card	90/07/06	HELVETIA	382	purple
4	red	card	90/09/21	FAURESMITH	none	
4	red	card	90/11/01	FAURESMITH	none	

OTHER COLORED CANCELS

Pre-1891, by date of usage

TOWN	COLOR	BATTEN#	DATE	SOURCE
LADYBRAND	blue	490	Jan-84	cover
ROUXVILLE	magenta	601	May-84	cover
BETHLEHEM	rose	22A	Oct-84	cover
LADYBRAND	purple	492	Jan-84	cover
BLOEMFONTEIN	purple	53	May-84	cover
BLOEMFONTEIN	purple	53	Sep-84	card
BLOEMFONTEIN	purple	53	Oct-84	cover
BRANDWATER	purple	209	Oct-84	cover
SENEKAL	blue	622	Dec-84	Batten/cover
CLOCOLAN	purple	227	May-85	card
FRANKFORT	purple	319A	Nov-85	card
VREDEFORT	purple	720	Dec-85	card
BLOEMFONTEIN	purple	52	Mar-86	card
CLOCOLAN	purple	228	May-86	cover
LADYBRAND	purple	491	May-86	cover
CLOCOLAN	purple	228	Feb-87	cover
LADYBRAND	purple	491	May-87	card
BULTFONTEIN	purple	214	Apr-88	card
WINBURG	purple	753A	Jun-89	card
WINBURG	purple	753A	Aug-89	card

coupled with the various colored cancels on covers and cards should allow us to make some broad but useful statements.

Using only my data base of stamps which is around 190 colored cancels, we find the following examples for the following colors.

STAMPS WITH COLOR CANCELS

As can be seen, all but 2 of the 16-bar cancels occur in one of the three most common colors. Why Jacobsdal or Edenburg did not use colored ink during the mid-80's is a rather perplexing mystery and it may be solely due to the population of the sample although one would think that there would be one in

the sample of nearly 200 stamps! I have recorded a single ½d stamp with Batten 405 (Jagersfontein) in magenta dated 30 Oct 83 indicating a statistical population shortage as postulated.

Reviewing the stamps themselves we see that only two towns used colored inks pre-1880. The issue in question was the 4 on 6 provisional of 1877 which was only used until late 1878 (as far as we can guess). Both examples are in blue and are from Smithfield and Zand River. The short-lived provisional of 1881 1d on 5/- is found in blue from Winburg. This confirms the Ladybrand example from above that blue ink had been distributed in the Republic earlier than generally used in the Capital.

STAMPS WITH COLOR CANCELS				
16-bar	TOWN ASSIGNED	BLUE	RED	PURPLE
1	BLOEMFONTEIN			
2	WINBURG	X	X	X
3	HARRISMITH	X	X	X
4	FAURESMTIH	X	X	
5	SMITHFIELD	X		X
6	KROONSTAD	X		
7	BETHULIE		X	
8	BOSHOF	X	X	X
9	JACOBSDAL			
10	PHILIPPOLIS			X
11	BETHLEHEM			X
12	ROUXVILLE			X
13	ZAND RIVER	X		X
14	EDENBURG			
15	BETHANY			X
16	WEPENER	X		
17	LADYBRAND			X
18	FICKSBURG	X	X	X
19	REDDERSBURG	X		X
11-bar	TOWN ASSIGNED	BLUE	RED	PURPLE
1	BLOEMFONTEIN	X	X	X
20	BRANDFORT		X	
23			X	
24	HEILBRON	X	X	
25	FRANKFORT			X
26	BULTFONTEIN			X
27	HOOPSTAD			X
29	SENEKAL		X	
30		X		
47		X		
55				X
56			X	
A	CLOCOLAN		X	X
D	ABRAHAMSKRAAL		X	X
I			X	
M	DEPUT			X
N		X		X
O	JAGERSFONTEIN	X		
Q	HELVETIA			X
R	BLOEMFONTEIN REGISTERED		X	X
T	KOFFYFONTEIN			X
X	VREDE	X	X	X

When the domestic rate change to 2d occurred in 1883 we see the most widespread usage of colored inks on the 2d de la Rue issue. Eleven of the 16-bar numbers are recorded on this stamp with another 13 different 11-bar cancels. As might be expected the blue distribution is the smallest and the violet/purple is the greatest with red only slightly less so than the violet/purple.

After 1890, there were a few towns that continued the use of colored inks, most notably Bethanie, Clocolan, Kroonstad, Ladybrand and Smithfield. Kroonstad and Smithfield used blue ink in the early 90's and Ladybrand used purple ink for their experimental canceling devices of 1892-94. Bethanie used violet from 1893-96 and Clocolan from 1893-95. While there are other examples recorded they are quite the exception and until well into the turn of the 20th Century, they were conspicuous by their absence.

CONCLUSIONS:

While not definitive, it is hoped that this short study will indicate some of the evolutionary changes that went on in the postal system of the Free State in the formative development stages of the 1880's. For its size and population, the Free State arguably had more variety in the cancels and date stamps used over their four and one-half decades of postal service than any of their neighbors save possibly the Cape Colony. The data of colored ink use would seem to indicate another general stage of experimentation in the defacing of the postal issues to prevent reuse and fraud. A general use of first black then the progression of blue, violet/purple, red/brown and then returning to black seems to be a Republic-wide event promulgated by the central office in Bloemfontein. Just as there was a succession of cancel/killer and date stamp types, so to does it appear that there was one for ink colors.



Rose-inked numerical '18' cancel on stamp.

1884 cover from Rouxville with rose Bloemfontein circular-dated transit cancel in purple ink.



1884 cover mailed from Bloemfontein with purple '1' numerical cancel.

Forerunners Forum

Questions, Comments, and Answers

The Putzel-Visser Postmark Book

Alex Visser writes to let us know that he has updated all letters with the exception of the letter M. All addendum to the postmark book are posted on the web as of June 2009 on <http://www.up.ac.za/academic/civil/books/>. The only outstanding letter is M, which stands for monster, and will be tackled next. He thanks all for the information he have received, but wishes to remind us that comments and new observations still are needed.



Request for African Stamps.

Reinaldo Sanchez is writing: I am 30 years old and I am a Historian (Ph.D). I am professor of Education at University: <http://www.unellez.edu.ve/>. I would like to know if you can send me as a donation (by airmail) some AFRICAN POSTAGE STAMPS. I need the stamps because I am working on a project with my own students based on using PHILATELY as an educational way in order to learn history and other sciences. The stamps will be used for educational purposes only. If you wish to help me, you can use the following postal address: Prof. Reinaldo Sanchez, Apartado Postal 90, Calle 5 de julio n° 2-22, Barinas Estado Barinas 5201, Republica de Venezuela (South America).

For the Record

81. The **Great Britain Overprint Society** has released in 2009 an index of the **Postal Order News** published by the Postal Order Society. Included are a thematic index from all issues between and including issues 1 and 50. In addition, all illustrations to issue 86 are also indexed. The index is available at <http://postalorders.informe.com/forum/society-journal-index-df18.html>. It totals 44 pages and was prepared by **J.M. Gledhill**.

82. **Naval-History.Net** (<http://www.naval-history.net/index.htm>) contains an amazing amount of detailed information on ships and men in the naval fleets of the world. The '**Service Histories of Royal Navy Warships in World War 2**' compiled by Lt. Cdr. G.B. Mason is a particular useful postal history tool. As an example, the search for HMS Landguard (from a return address on an airgraph) revealed that the ship was originally a US Coastguard Cutter build in 1939 in Oakland, California. It was leased to the Royal Navy in 1941. In March of 1944, the date on the airgraph, it was undergoing repair in Diego Suarez, Madagascar.

83. The **Mashonaland Philatelic Society** (Harare, Zimbabwe) has discontinued their monthly newsletter that had been distributed as an attachment to emails. The reason is given as the lack of a willing editor. The last issue seen is from May-June 2009. The **Royal Philatelic Society of Zimbabwe** (Bulawayo) still issues their monthly newsletter also as email attachments. The last is No. 292 for October 2009. The most recent issues of both newsletters are available from the Editor.

84. Most postal history collectors will pick up interesting history or topical books with interest to their special area. The **Auction Explorer** is thus a good place to search (<http://www.auctionexplorerbooks.com/home.html>). Postal history books may also be included. A recent search picked up a rather worn copy of Ellerton Fry's 1891 book with pioneer column photographs - a very rare book even in such poor condition.

85. **Grosvenor's** September 2009 auction of British Empire and Foreign Countries managed to include a good selection of

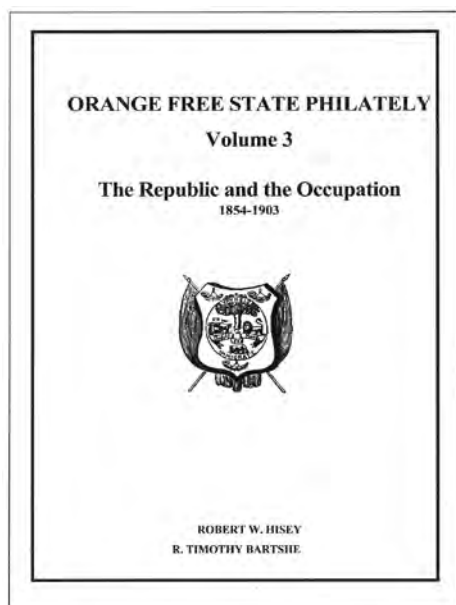
the **Rhodesians** despite the main offers of Falkland Islands, Johore and Perak, and New Zealand collections. Go to www.grosvenorauctions.com to keep track of future auctions.

86. **Spink's** sale of the Richard Rinkoff collection of British Empire postage stamps in July 2009 contained a strong collection of **Cape triangulars**, including woodblocks, together with large collections of early **Mauritius** and the 1895-6 **Uganda missionary stamps**. More impressive Mauritius material was included in Spink's July 2009 Collectors Series sale. Go to spinkshreves.com for future auctions.

87. **Stephan Welz** has distributed their November 2009 postage stamps and postal history catalogue. This time it arrived in good time for the auction on November 4. It includes most areas of southern Africa, notably a collection of material related to the **first South African airmail disaster** (Captain Davenport's 1931 crash in the Lowry Pass). Go to www.swelco.co.za for information of this and future sales.



Book Reviews



ORANGE FREE STATE PHILATELY: THE REPUBLIC AND THE OCCUPATION 1854-1903, VOL. 3 by Robert W. Hisey, and R. Timothy Bartshe. Published in 2009 by OSSE-WA Press and PSGSA, 7227 Sparta Road, Sebring, FL 33872, iii+205 pp., color illus., tables, 8½x11 inches, hard cover; available from the authors or PSGSA for US\$35 plus \$5 shipping in USA and \$10 elsewhere. Email bobhisey@comcast.net.

This is the third volume in the series by these two authors, and it covers the revenues, frank stamps and postal stationery of the Orange Free State. Volumes 1 (2002) and 2 (2004) cover the postage stamps and the telegraphs respectively. All three volumes share certain characteristics. On the positive side, the scholarship is superb, and the presentation is thorough and well-documented with appropriate charts and illustrations. On the negative side, none of the volumes contain a bibliography or index; however, references for statements of fact or conclusions are given in footnotes. Numbers extant are provided for some of the rare items, but this information is not consistently provided for every issue.

Revenues are not every stamp collector's cup of tea; however, because many of the normal revenue stamps were postage stamps variously overprinted for different revenue uses, I think all collectors will enjoy and learn from the first seven chapters of this book. The illustrations show not only the stamps and their various overprints, but also a substantial number properly used on documents. After the introductory chapters on embossed stamps and the De La Rue essays and proofs, each subsequent chapter is loaded with tables, enlarged scans and diagrams to show the many varieties of the "V.R.I." overprints. One gets the impression that collecting and study of Orange Free State revenues can turn out to be an extensive and stimulating project.

There are also two chapters on the "R.D.M." (mounted police) franks and the military franks, including an extensive study of the Commando Brief Frank. The latter have been extensively forged, and the book's coverage of the Commando Brief Frank

includes illustrations and keys to determine forgeries from genuine stamps.

Three chapters cover in great detail the De La Rue postal cards (London printings), the locally produced provisional postal cards of 1889-1899, and the overprinted occupation postal cards. The 25 settings of the provisional cards are presented one to a page (except that 18B and 18C share a page), with sufficient enlarged scans to aid accurate identification. The occupation overprints are treated in even more detail, showing the various settings, flaws, and transition states between settings. Unusual overprint errors are illustrated full size and enlarged.

An additional chapter is devoted to the postal cards of the Orange River Colony. This chapter describes in detail the multiple printings of the Orange River Colony overprints on Cape of Good Hope postal cards shipped to the colony 1901-1902.

The book's final chapter covers the postal notes printed by De La Rue for the Orange Free State in 1897. These were printed in various background colors with black values and numbering. This makes quite a colorful ending to a highly useful reference work on the revenues, franks and postal stationery of the Orange Free State. I highly recommend this book as a worthy companion to Volumes 1 and 2.

David McNamee

SURCHARGED MAIL AND THE POSTAGE DUE STAMPS OF NORTHERN RHODESIA 1924-64 by Alan Drysdall and Otto Peetoom, Memoir 12 of the Rhodesian Study Circle; 68 pages with 52 illustrations, the majority in colour; photocopied on A4 and spiral bound; available from the Publications Officer, 5 Warwick Court, St. Neots, Camb PE19 8HH; price £12 inclusive of inland or surface postage.

The most recent publication in the Rhodesian Study Circle's memoir series is a detailed study of the treatment of unpaid and underpaid mail and the postage due stamps used to receipt payment of the deficiency and the penalty. The 1929 issue of four values printed in black is based on a design used for a number of colonies, with the numerals printed from the plates originally made for the postage due stamps of Trinidad in 1885. Much of what is described concerning varieties is therefore applicable to the postage due stamps of a number of colonies. The study concerns not only the minor varieties, but also to the watermark varieties and the four different types of paper used during the life of the issue.

A summary description of the postage due stamps of the Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland is followed by a detailed study of the second Northern Rhodesia issue, comprising six values printed in a variety of colours by the Government printer in Lusaka during the dismantling of the Federation in 1963. Most of the varieties arose from the printer's inexperience in perforating sheets of stamps.

This memoir will become required reading for anyone seriously interested in underpaid mail and postage due stamps.

Rhodesian Study Circle Journal



UK TAXE MARKS FOR INTERNATIONAL MAIL 1875-2000. USAGE AND LISTING by Ken Snelson. Published in 2007 by the author in association with the Postage Due Mail Study Group.

This book is the first comprehensive study of the tax marks of the UK applied to underpaid international mail to meet Universal (originally General) Postal Union requirements. It covers the period from the formation of the GPU in 1875 to the late 1990s when the British Post Office stopped using tax marks. The book contains 180 pages (80 in colour) each 8.5 x 11 inches (approximately A4). It has plastic laminated covers with a spiral binding allowing it to sit flat when open for easy reference.

Part A describes the postal union regulations for underpaid mail, the application of these regulations by the British Post Office and the evolution of tax marks to indicate tax amounts to foreign postal authorities. This part includes colour illustrations of 128 covers at 70% full size each with an explanation of the calculation of the tax amount in the UK and the due amount in the country of destination. Part A consists of:

Chapter 1 General Postal Union Period: 1875-79

Chapter 2 Mail From Outside the Union

Chapter 3 UPU Mail to World War II

Chapter 4 Airmail to World War II

Chapter 5 Usage from May 1, 1940 to October 2, 1966

Chapter 6 Usage of Fractional Tax Marks from 1966

Part B lists all known UK tax marks including marks from England, Scotland, Wales, Ireland (before partition), Northern Ireland and the Channel Islands. The listing is based on more than 25 years of research by the author assisted by reports from many collectors and data from Impression Books in postal archives. Over 700 tax marks are illustrated at full size. Data on each mark includes the issue date (if known), years of first and last use (if reported used), and a scarcity rating. Where the office is identifiable from a telegraph code or office number in the mark, the marks are listed by office of use. Anonymous marks are classified by shape with the office of use, where known, identified in the accompanying text. Part C includes tables of postal rates and tax indications, a bibliography and the index.

This book should be useful for all postal historians and collectors with an interest in postage due mail. It will also show collectors of the postal history and postal marks of London and major provincial towns the tax marks that were used in their particular area. The order form on the back of this sheet indicates how to obtain your copy and the price including postage to your particular location. The publication has benefited from a donation from the British Philatelic Trust without which the prices would have been higher.

New Books

Davis, J.G.M., 2009. War Tax Stamps of the British Empire. First World War. The West Indies. Royal Philatelic Society, London.

Hisey, R.W. and Bartshe, R.T., 2009. Orange Free State Philately: The Republic and the Occupation 1854-1903, Volume 3. OSSEWA Press and PSGSA, 7227 Sparta Road, Sebring, FL 33872, bobhisey@comcast.net.

Drysdall, A. and Peetoom, O., 2009. Surcharged Mail and the Postage Due Stamps of Northern Rhodesia 1924-64. Memoir 12 of the Rhodesian Study Circle, available from the Publications Officer, 5 Warwick Court, St. Neots, Cambs PE19 8HH, UK.

Snelson, K., 2007. UK Taxe Marks for International Mail 1875-2000. Usage and Listing. Postage Due Mail Study Group.

Highlights From Journals and Newsletters

Board, C., 2009. Notable snow fall in Johannesburg, August 1909. Transvaal Philatelist 44, 64-68.

Brickman, A.S., 2009. 1910 Rhodesian double heads. Water-lows specimen overprints. Journal of Rhodesian Study Circle 232, 121-125.

de Bourbon, A., 2009. Revenues south of the Zambezi 1924-2006. Journal of Rhodesian Study Circle 232, 126-132.

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Dickson, J., 2009. Supposed souvenir stamps of Natal. Cape and Natal Philatelic Journal 13, 98-101.

Drysdall, A. and Blascheck, D., 2009. Cape Colony Ocean Post Office and taxed letters posted at sea. Cape and Natal Philatelic Journal 13, 110-113.

Findlay, J., 2009. World War II: Types of Cachets used on South African military mail. South African Philatelist, April 2009, Whole No. 893, 658-659.

Fryer, G., 2009. The postal service in Somalia 1990-1994. London Philatelist 118, 279-294.

Groenewald, J., 2009. Britain's 'war' against Rhodesia: The Beira Blockade. Journal of Rhodesian Study Circle 231, 79-81.

Higson, A., 2009. The 'V.R.I.' overprint with the 'I' dropped by 0.75 mm. Transvaal Philatelist 44, 57-59.

Klugman, K. and Dickson, J., 2009. Natal soldiers' letters pre-1870. Cape and Natal Philatelic Journal 13, 117-122.

Lloyd, E.K., 2009. Chinese covers to the Transvaal goldmines. Transvaal Philatelist 44, 61-63.

Napier, D.E., 2009. An Australian at the Boer War. Journal of Rhodesian Study Circle 231, 76-78.

Peggie, P. and Burke, S., 2009. The Paris Missionary Society. Journal of Rhodesian Study Circle 231, 82-88.

Woolgar, J., 2009. Illustrated postal stationery cards – 'THE LATE CRISIS IN JOHANNESBURG'. Transvaal Philatelist 44, 52-56.

Society Publications

Hisey and Bartshe, 2003. Philately of the Orange Free State, Vol. 1, The Postage Stamps. Hardbound, 280 pages in full color, \$35 plus \$5 s/h in the US, plus \$10 elsewhere by air.

Hisey and Bartshe, 2004. Philately of the Orange Free State, Vol. 2, The Telegraphs. Hardbound, 250 pages in full color, \$35 plus \$5 s/h in the US, plus \$10 elsewhere by air.

Hisey and Bartshe, 2009. Philately of the Orange Free State, Vol. 3. Hardbound, 205 pages in full color, \$35 plus \$5 s/h in the US, plus \$10 elsewhere by air.

Forerunners on CD, Issues 1 to 50 (CD-ROM). \$30 plus \$5 s/h.

Taylor, Robert. Early Postal Services of the Cape of Good Hope PSGSA Exhibit Series (CD-ROM). \$15 pp.

Lodoen, Peter. Accepted - Rejected: Life of a Botswana Stamp Designer. \$25 full color print, \$10 on CD-ROM. Postage paid.

Hisey, B. (compiler), 2006. Postal Office Names of Southern Africa According to Ralph Putzel (CD-ROM). \$15 pp.

To order contact David McNamee at the addresses given on page 1.

The Market Place

Union machine and parcel postmarks. Wanted by specialist collector. Single items, collections, or unsorted bulk accumulations. Please contact Bas Payne on bas@paynes.demon.co.uk, or Saltbox Barn, Edney's Lane, Denmead, Waterlooville, PO7 6JL, UK.

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Cape of Good Hope. I buy postal history material, specially the period 1652 - 1853. Please send scan or photocopy with price. Johnny Barth, Nivavaenge 25, DK 2990 Niva, Denmark. E-mail: barth@post3.tele.dk.

SA Homelands used. Seeking postally used stamps and covers (larger lots with duplication OK). Have used Homelands and GB, Commonwealth (Australia, NZ, others) to trade. Send description/scan/price to Chris Oberholster, 2013 Yancy Drive, Bessemer, AL 35022; pangolin100@aol.com.

Wanted: Postal Savings Books and related items from any southern African territories and countries. Send photocopies/scans and descriptions to Peter Thy, P.O. Box 73112, Davis CA 95617-3112, thy@kronestamps.dk.

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South West Africa postal stationery. I am seeking pre-1969 items. Please send offer to Jan Stolk, Waterhoenlaan 24, B-9120 Melsele, Belgium; janstolk@belgacom.net.

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GSWA, OFS postal stationery & the Cape of Good Hope pre-stamp period are my interests. Philatelists wishing to correspond and exchange information / material can write to me at: Hennie Taljaard, P O Box 816, Ceres, 6835, RSA or stadsbeplanner@ananzi.co.za.

Join the American Philatelic Society. Membership applications and benefits information: APS, 100 Match Factory Place, College, PA 16803, USA.

Madagascar postal stationery. Used and unused, stamped and unstamped, stationery from the greater Madagascar area. Any period and type are needed for collection and exhibit. Send offer to Peter Thy, P.O. Box 73112, Davis, CA 95617-3112 or email thy@kronestamps.dk.

Numerical Cancellers (BONCs) used in Southern Africa sought by collector. Contact me for wantlist or let me know what you can offer. Werner Seeba, In Den Wannenaeckern 14, D-70374 Stuttgart 50, Germany.

Airmails from SA to South America. Wanted airmail covers from SA to South or central America between 1932 and 1952. Send scan or photocopy with price to Hugh Amoore, (9 Bishoplea Road, Claremont, South Africa, 7708); email to: hugh.amoore@uct.ac.za).

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The OFS books should be ordered from and paid directly to Bob Hisey, 7227 Sparta Rd., Sebring, FL 33875; bobhisey@comcast.net.



Reply coupons are colorful additions to philatelic, postal stationery, and postal history collections. The majority of those that shows up in collector hands are Universal Postal Union coupons that first were issued in 1906. British Imperial Reply Coupons were first issued in 1927 and were exchangeable for a stamp or stamps representing the minimum postage on a letter sent from the redeeming country to any other country within the Empire. In 1953 the inscription (together with the design) was changed to Commonwealth Reply Coupon. The replacement of the Empire coupons only happened slowly throughout the Commonwealth as the remaining Imperial coupons were used. The Imperial Reply Coupon shown here was printed for Southern Rhodesia at a value of 3d and issued in Plumtree in 1955. This is nearly three years after the official replacement date in London (Feb. 23, 1953). Southern Rhodesia appears never to have issued Commonwealth coupons unless a reader has seen an example.

Membership Application

Membership fees are \$25 US and Canada and \$30 for all other addresses. Membership includes a subscription to the Society's quarterly journal Forerunners. Those that join before July 1 will receive the complete back issues for that year. Thereafter annual renewals occur in August and are due by September 1. If sending in dues by mail, please provide funds in US\$ either in currency or a check on a USA bank account made out to "PSGSA." A cheque in Sterling is also acceptable; however, make the cheque payable to "E. Hisey" instead of the Society. Mail all payments to David McNamee, PSGSA Treasurer, 15 Woodland Drive, Alamo, CA 94507 USA. Paypal to "dmcnamee@aol.com" is also acceptable, but please add US\$1 extra to cover part of the PayPal fees we must pay to use the service.

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THE RARE AND UNUSUAL

Orange Free State 1884 Postcard with 1890 UPU Archival Marking



This Orange Free State postcard has a typical 1890 Universal Postal Union Berne Archival marking. At first this appears puzzling since the card was issued in 1884, several years before Orange Free State in 1898 became a UPU member. How can that have come about? We know about an October 1890 UPU distribution of the then current stamps and stationery from non-member British dependencies. This is well documented for British Bechuanaland where the financial consequences caused a long lasting stir-up in the British Colonial Administration. But why the Orange Free State that certainly was not a British Dependency? To explain this, we may need to look at the general postal arrangements in southern Africa at that time. The Cape Post Office had in 1890 for some years despite not being a member already supplied specimens of stamps and stationery to the UPU. This is evidenced by 1884 UPU archival markings on Cape stationery. It should be remembered that Cape of Good Hope at that time was the driving force behind postal progress. In 1884, the South African Postal Union was formed at the initiative of the Cape Postmaster-General in preparation for full UPU membership. It is plausible that when the request came from London, this was forwarded by P.M.G. G.W. Aitchison to all South African Postal Union members with the advice that they complied with the request. We know that Bechuanaland and Natal did, but it is possible that also Orange Free State and perhaps the South African Republic responded positively.